

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
FLOOR SESSION, VOLUME ONE OF TWO

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In Raleigh, North Carolina  
Thursday, February 18, 2016  
Reported by Rachel L. Hammond, CVR-M

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| <p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>1 (Reporter's note: Proceedings in this matter<br/>2 began at 10:05 a.m. on February 18, 2016.)<br/>3 SPEAKER MOORE: The House will come to order.<br/>4 Members will take their seats. Visitors will retire<br/>5 from the chamber. The Sergeant-at-Arms will close the<br/>6 doors. We'd ask members to please take your seats.<br/>7 Today's prayer will be offered by<br/>8 Representative Shepard. We'd ask all members and all<br/>9 guests in the gallery to please stand for the prayer<br/>10 and to remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.<br/>11 Representative Shepard.<br/>12 (Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.)<br/>13 SPEAKER MOORE: The reading clerk will read the<br/>14 Proclamation from the governor.<br/>15 (Proclamation from the governor read by clerk.)<br/>16 REP. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker.<br/>17 SPEAKER MOORE: The clerk will suspend. For<br/>18 what purpose does the gentleman from Harnett,<br/>19 Representative Lewis, arise?<br/>20 REP. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, I'm having difficulty<br/>21 hearing the clerk.<br/>22 SPEAKER MOORE: Members -- Members, please take<br/>23 your seats. If members need to have conversations,<br/>24 please step outside the chamber. It will be a few<br/>25 minutes before any votes are taken, but the clerk is</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>1 Representative Murphy will occupy seat 111.<br/>2 Representative Hall was subscribed the Oath of Office<br/>3 on November 24, 2015. Representative Hall will occupy<br/>4 seat 112. If you would, please, join me in welcoming<br/>5 Representative Hall to the House of Representatives.<br/>6 In order to establish a quorum, the Chair<br/>7 directs that an electronic call of the roll of the<br/>8 members of the House is to be done. Fifteen seconds<br/>9 are allowed for members to answer the call. The clerk<br/>10 will open the vote. Members will need to press that<br/>11 green button on your desk -- or red if you feel so<br/>12 inclined. Those are the only color choices available<br/>13 on your voting system. The clerk will lock the machine<br/>14 and record the vote. The Chair declares a quorum<br/>15 present including even the gentleman from Ashe.<br/>16 Members, we -- today's session, of course, is a<br/>17 special session that a lot of us didn't necessarily<br/>18 expect a few weeks ago, but we're here and we are doing<br/>19 our duty. Today's schedule will roughly go that we<br/>20 will consider -- we will be adopting new rules today,<br/>21 or temporary rules, for the purpose of this special<br/>22 session, which has been done many times over in special<br/>23 sessions. They're a little different than the normal<br/>24 rules. They recognize that we're dealing with a<br/>25 limited subject matter. In this case it is the</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>1 reading the proclamation from the governor. And the<br/>2 Chair is trying to give leeway knowing a lot of us<br/>3 haven't seen each other in a few months. But we'd ask<br/>4 you to give respect to your fellow members to be able<br/>5 to hear.<br/>6 The clerk will continue.<br/>7 (Proclamations from the governor read by<br/>8 clerk.)<br/>9 (Appointment of Gregory F. Murphy read by<br/>10 clerk.)<br/>11 (Appointment of Kyle Hall read by clerk.)<br/>12 SPEAKER MOORE: Members, I just want to direct<br/>13 your attention, we have a court reporter today<br/>14 observing the proceedings because of this<br/>15 redistricting. That is one additional reason to try to<br/>16 hold the talking down. She has a little difficulty<br/>17 because she is literally -- as we're -- as she's<br/>18 hearing what's being said, she is speaking into that<br/>19 thing, it looks like a breathing thing, so that it's<br/>20 recorded. So if you could try to keep the noise down<br/>21 so that she could hear as well.<br/>22 The principal clerk has informed me that<br/>23 Representative Murphy subscribed to the Oath of Office<br/>24 on November 5, 2015. Although he is not here today,<br/>25 and has advised us that he is unable to be here,</p>                    | <p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>1 legislative redistricting, and so you'll notice some<br/>2 differences there. So other bills are not eligible --<br/>3 sorry, Representative Stam, you can't file some of your<br/>4 other bills I know you wanted to do today. It's just<br/>5 redistricting. That is all we will be dealing with<br/>6 this. I would expect that we will be here today and<br/>7 tomorrow. There will be, I'm sure, caucuses that the<br/>8 minority and the majority leader call. I know that the<br/>9 Redistricting Committee chaired by Representative Lewis<br/>10 will be meeting to take up the two different bills, and<br/>11 we'd ask members to -- we'll keep everybody apprised of<br/>12 what we're doing as the day goes on. Representative<br/>13 Lewis, the gentleman is recognized to send forth<br/>14 consideration -- a resolution. The clerk will read.<br/>15 Actually, the gentleman is allowed to send<br/>16 forth the resolution.<br/>17 REP. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, I have placed with<br/>18 the clerk a resolution for consideration by the body.<br/>19 SPEAKER MOORE: The Chair directs that the<br/>20 principal clerk assign a number to the resolution.<br/>21 The House will be at ease momentarily.<br/>22 CLERK: House Resolution 1, the House<br/>23 Resolution adopting the permanent rules of the 2016<br/>24 Extra Session of the North Carolina House of<br/>25 Representatives.</p>   |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>1           SPEAKER MOORE: House Resolution 1, as the</p> <p>2 clerk has read. Representative Lewis is recognized,</p> <p>3 the Chair orders that House Resolution 1 be counted.</p> <p>4 The clerk will read.</p> <p>5           CLERK: House Resolution adopting the permanent</p> <p>6 rules of the 2016 Extra Session for the North Carolina</p> <p>7 House of Representatives.</p> <p>8           SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman from Harnett,</p> <p>9 Representative Lewis, is recognized to debate the</p> <p>10 Resolution.</p> <p>11          REP. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and</p> <p>12 members. To save time, I will point out sections that</p> <p>13 I think the members will consider important in casting</p> <p>14 their vote in support of this resolution.</p> <p>15          First of all, I will point out a small change</p> <p>16 to our regular rules, which appears on the first page</p> <p>17 starting at line 29, continuing through line 31. This</p> <p>18 establishes the Committee on Redistricting. It also</p> <p>19 makes clear that rules applying to other committees</p> <p>20 during this special session pursuant to the calling of</p> <p>21 this session by the governor would be inoperative.</p> <p>22 That means that the only committees that would be</p> <p>23 authorized to meet during this session would be the</p> <p>24 Committee on Rules, Calendaring and Operations of the</p> <p>25 House, the Committee on Ethics, and the Committee on</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>1 amendment was proposed in committee. It also says, any</p> <p>2 member of the House may propose an amendment in</p> <p>3 committee whether or not that member of the House is a</p> <p>4 member assigned to that committee. Any amendment must</p> <p>5 replace the entire text of the bill that is being</p> <p>6 amended and be accompanied by a map showing all of the</p> <p>7 congressional districts in the state.</p> <p>8          I'll pause for just a moment to say what this</p> <p>9 means is members that wish to offer amendments are</p> <p>10 certainly encouraged and empowered to do so, but it</p> <p>11 would need to be an amendment that includes all 13</p> <p>12 districts. And it would first have to be offered in</p> <p>13 the Redistricting Committee before it could be offered</p> <p>14 on the floor of the House.</p> <p>15          Further, lines 31 and 32 clarify that this</p> <p>16 subsection applies only to amendments on a bill</p> <p>17 adopting new redistricting plans for the House of</p> <p>18 Representatives of the Congress of the United States.</p> <p>19 Therefore, amendments to bills that set the primary</p> <p>20 dates and the whatnot would operate under our regular</p> <p>21 rules.</p> <p>22          Mr. Speaker, this concludes my presentation. I</p> <p>23 would urge members to adopt these rules, and I will be</p> <p>24 happy to yield to any inquiries.</p> <p>25          SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does the</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>1 Redistricting.</p> <p>2          On page 2 starting at line 3 you will see that</p> <p>3 the only bills that are eligible to be considered</p> <p>4 during this session pursuant to the call of the</p> <p>5 governor are bills adopting new redistricting plans for</p> <p>6 the House of Representatives of the United States</p> <p>7 Congress and bills providing for the scheduling and</p> <p>8 implementation of the congressional primary election in</p> <p>9 2016. Those are the only bills that will be considered</p> <p>10 during this session.</p> <p>11          Lines 12 through 14 make clear that a</p> <p>12 resolution or bill may be placed on the calendar</p> <p>13 without first being referred by the Speaker to a</p> <p>14 committee and it may be referred on the same</p> <p>15 legislative day that it is introduced or upon its</p> <p>16 receipt from the Senate.</p> <p>17          Page 2, lines 19 through 21 make clear that the</p> <p>18 Speaker will give notice at each reading if the bill is</p> <p>19 being heard on its second or third reading.</p> <p>20          Page 2, lines 23 and 24 make clear that a bill</p> <p>21 may be read more than once on the same day.</p> <p>22          Page 2, line 25 through 32 is probably the most</p> <p>23 relevant and operative part of this that members should</p> <p>24 take notice of. This rule says that no amendment may</p> <p>25 be offered on the floor of the House unless that</p>                 | <p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>1 gentleman from Durham, Representative Hall, arise?</p> <p>2          REP. L. HALL: Question of the resolution</p> <p>3 sponsor.</p> <p>4          SPEAKER MOORE: Does the gentleman from Harnett</p> <p>5 yield to the gentleman from Durham?</p> <p>6          REP. LEWIS: I yield.</p> <p>7          SPEAKER MOORE: He yields.</p> <p>8          REP. L. HALL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And,</p> <p>9 Representative Lewis, I just wanted to clarify that</p> <p>10 what we're saying here, line 25 on page 2, is that</p> <p>11 unless you have your amendment ready in committee</p> <p>12 during the time that the committee is hearing this</p> <p>13 bill, you can't take information from that committee,</p> <p>14 whatever you learned, and go to staff and get it put</p> <p>15 into a bill covering those 13 districts and then submit</p> <p>16 it on the floor? You would have to know in the</p> <p>17 committee beforehand, you can't take what you learned</p> <p>18 in the committee and put it into a bill -- amendment to</p> <p>19 be put on the floor; is that correct?</p> <p>20          REP. LEWIS: You are reading that correct.</p> <p>21 Yes, sir.</p> <p>22          REP. L. HALL: Follow-up.</p> <p>23          SPEAKER MOORE: Does the gentleman from Harnett</p> <p>24 yield to an additional question from the gentleman from</p> <p>25 Durham?</p>  |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>1 REP. LEWIS: I yield.</p> <p>2 SPEAKER MOORE: He yields.</p> <p>3 REP. L. HALL: Is there going to be some</p> <p>4 special staff support at the committee meetings today</p> <p>5 so that people can, in fact, do that? Have special</p> <p>6 arrangements been made so that they can do that on the</p> <p>7 spot?</p> <p>8 REP. LEWIS: Thank you for that question,</p> <p>9 Representative Hall. To be clear, we have provided</p> <p>10 for, I think, additional special staff support. The</p> <p>11 central staff is certainly aware of the urgency of this</p> <p>12 and is prepared to -- or are prepared to respond to</p> <p>13 inquiries as timely as they can. I would also point</p> <p>14 out that the Senate Committee will take up -- the</p> <p>15 Senate Committee and the Senate will take up this bill</p> <p>16 before it comes to the House, which means we probably</p> <p>17 have five or six, seven -- hopefully not seven, but</p> <p>18 five or six hours that will pass before the House</p> <p>19 Committee on Redistricting would meet. So there is</p> <p>20 some time today to work on those. And, of course,</p> <p>21 there would be time to work on them during the</p> <p>22 committee as well.</p> <p>23 And might we speak just to the members as to</p> <p>24 the rationale behind this. It is simply a very</p> <p>25 labor-intensive undertaking for the staff to be able to</p>   | <p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>1 am just concerned about the fact that we're going to</p> <p>2 cut off, in some way, our ability to take what we learn</p> <p>3 in the committee, review it between then and session</p> <p>4 and then be able to do that. So I just want to make a</p> <p>5 note of that for the record. Thank you.</p> <p>6 SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does the</p> <p>7 gentleman from Harnett, Representative Lewis, arise?</p> <p>8 REP. LEWIS: To debate the resolution a second</p> <p>9 time.</p> <p>10 SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman has the floor to</p> <p>11 debate the resolution a second time.</p> <p>12 REP. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And</p> <p>13 members, I only wanted to state for the record that</p> <p>14 these rules are largely the exact same rules that we</p> <p>15 have used since 1998. That is when we went to draft</p> <p>16 the rules, and members are certainly free to go back</p> <p>17 and look. Whenever there's been a special session on</p> <p>18 redistricting, this has been the rules.</p> <p>19 SPEAKER MOORE: Further discussion, further</p> <p>20 debate?</p> <p>21 If not those in favor will vote "aye," those</p> <p>22 opposed will vote "no." The clerk will open the vote.</p> <p>23 Representative Johnson of Guilford, does the</p> <p>24 gentleman wish to record on this vote?</p> <p>25 The clerk will lock the machine and record the</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>1 print the maps, the stat packs, and things that members</p> <p>2 have to have in order to be able to present this. And</p> <p>3 so what we're trying to do is make sure that there are</p> <p>4 as few of mistakes as possible in that. So we felt if</p> <p>5 the amendment was heard in a committee, whether or not</p> <p>6 it was passed, at least it would be complete and then</p> <p>7 could be considered on the floor if that's what members</p> <p>8 chose to do.</p> <p>9 SPEAKER MOORE: Further discussion, further</p> <p>10 debate? For what purpose does the gentleman from</p> <p>11 Durham, Representative Hall, arise?</p> <p>12 REP. L. HALL: Just to comment on the</p> <p>13 resolution, Mr. Speaker.</p> <p>14 SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman has the floor to</p> <p>15 debate the resolution.</p> <p>16 REP. L. HALL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I</p> <p>17 really want to make sure we take note of the fact that,</p> <p>18 keeping in mind the effort that is being made here,</p> <p>19 that we are saying, as I indicated, that after we leave</p> <p>20 that committee meeting, whatever review we are doing or</p> <p>21 whatever else happens, we cannot improve this plan when</p> <p>22 we come to the floor. We do know that we have people</p> <p>23 across North Carolina, this is potentially going to</p> <p>24 affect several elections, that would be interested or</p> <p>25 have expertise or will be affected by this. And so, I</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>1 vote: 91 having voted in the affirmative and 17 in the</p> <p>2 negative, House Resolution 1 is adopted and ordered</p> <p>3 printed.</p> <p>4 The Committees on Rules, Calendar and</p> <p>5 Operations of the House, Ethics and Redistricting have</p> <p>6 been activated to meet under the rules. Pursuant to</p> <p>7 House Resolution 1, the members of the Rules Committee</p> <p>8 and the Ethics Committee are the same as those</p> <p>9 appointed for the 2015 session.</p> <p>10 The Chair makes the following committee</p> <p>11 appointments, the clerk will read.</p> <p>12 (Committee appointments read by clerk.)</p> <p>13 SPEAKER MOORE: The clerk will suspend.</p> <p>14 Representative Jordan, will the gentleman</p> <p>15 please approach the desk?</p> <p>16 Congratulations, Mr. Chairman.</p> <p>17 The Clerk will continue.</p> <p>18 (Appointments read by clerk.)</p> <p>19 SPEAKER MOORE: Representative Fraley, if the</p> <p>20 gentleman will approach the desk, please.</p> <p>21 The clerk will continue.</p> <p>22 (Appointments read by clerk.)</p> <p>23 SPEAKER MOORE: Representative Goodman, if the</p> <p>24 gentleman would approach the desk, please.</p> <p>25 Yes, Goodman of Rockingham, I think there was</p>  |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>1       only one Goodman I know of, but...</p> <p>2       The clerk will continue.</p> <p>3       (Appointments read by clerk.)</p> <p>4       SPEAKER MOORE: Representative Lewis, special</p> <p>5       gavel. Someone put a sticker on there that said, "The</p> <p>6       Widow Maker." I don't know who did that.</p> <p>7       The clerk will continue.</p> <p>8       (Advisory members read by clerk.)</p> <p>9       SPEAKER MOORE: Noted. The Chair directs that</p> <p>10      a message be sent to the Senate informing that</p> <p>11      honorable body that the 2015 House of Representatives</p> <p>12      is organized and ready to proceed with public business</p> <p>13      for the 2016 Extra Sessions and further inform that</p> <p>14      body of the seating of Representatives Murphy and Hall.</p> <p>15      Messages from the Senate, the clerk will read.</p> <p>16      (Message from the Senate read by clerk.)</p> <p>17      SPEAKER MOORE: Noted.</p> <p>18      Be at ease for just a moment.</p> <p>19      The House will come back to order.</p> <p>20      Members, the Chair is going to -- the Chair is</p> <p>21      going to recognize the gentleman from Harnett,</p> <p>22      Representative Lewis, to speak to a point of personal</p> <p>23      privilege.</p> <p>24      The House will come to order. This has to do</p> <p>25      with the schedule for today. Members may want to hear</p>   | <p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>1       The only other piece of business that we would probably</p> <p>2       do when we return at 2:30 would be to adopt the</p> <p>3       adjournment resolution that we would send over to the</p> <p>4       Senate as well.</p> <p>5       SPEAKER MOORE: For what purposes does the</p> <p>6       gentleman from Durham, Representative Michaux, arise?</p> <p>7       REP. MICHAUX: To ask Representative Lewis a</p> <p>8       question.</p> <p>9       SPEAKER MOORE: Does the gentleman from Harnett</p> <p>10      yield to the gentleman from Durham?</p> <p>11      REP. LEWIS: I yield.</p> <p>12      SPEAKER MOORE: He yields.</p> <p>13      REP. MICHAUX: Representative Lewis, yesterday</p> <p>14      in the special committee meeting, certain information</p> <p>15      was requested from some members of that committee. Is</p> <p>16      that information going to be available to us today?</p> <p>17      REP. LEWIS: Thank you for that question,</p> <p>18      Representative. I am aware that the information was</p> <p>19      requested, Co-Chairman Rucho and I directed staff to</p> <p>20      give that very high priority. The information, I</p> <p>21      believe, was requested by Senator McKissick of Durham.</p> <p>22      I do not know if it has been provided to him or not. I</p> <p>23      will commit to you that I will sit down and send an</p> <p>24      e-mail to staff to remind them if they have not done</p> <p>25      that, to make sure it is getting the attention that it</p>  |
| <p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>1       this. I'm going to recognize Representative Lewis to</p> <p>2       go through an approximate timeline. What we're -- just</p> <p>3       so you'll know right now, we are still waiting on staff</p> <p>4       to get the bill to us concerning the primary</p> <p>5       filing that we've -- we've got issues. The Senate and</p> <p>6       the House both share the same staff, so we're trying to</p> <p>7       work together on that. So that will be one of the</p> <p>8       things that gets filed during the recess we're about to</p> <p>9       take. But I do want to let Representative Lewis speak</p> <p>10      to a point of personal privilege to kind of weigh out</p> <p>11      the schedule for the day. The gentleman has the floor.</p> <p>12      REP. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr.</p> <p>13      Speaker and members, it is contemplated that the House</p> <p>14      Committee on Redistricting would meet at 1:00 today to</p> <p>15      consider the bill which would reestablish a filing</p> <p>16      period and an election period, an election date for the</p> <p>17      U.S. House of Representatives. It is further</p> <p>18      considered that the House would return to session at</p> <p>19      2:30 to consider and adopt and pass that bill, also to</p> <p>20      receive at that time, the bill from the Senate</p> <p>21      establishing the 2016 Contingent Congressional</p> <p>22      Redistricting Plan. The Speaker -- it's considered</p> <p>23      that the Speaker would then refer that to the House</p> <p>24      Committee on Redistricting again to be reviewed, and</p> <p>25      that bill will then be reported back out to the House.</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>1       needs.</p> <p>2       SPEAKER MOORE: Members, before we open it up</p> <p>3       to notices and announcements, the Chair wants to make</p> <p>4       an announcement or point of personal privilege.</p> <p>5       As many of you know, our clerk, Denise Weeks,</p> <p>6       sent out an e-mail yesterday. I tried to keep it from</p> <p>7       going out, and I've tried to talk her out of it. I</p> <p>8       don't think I'm going to succeed. But after years of</p> <p>9       faithful service, Ms. Weeks has announced that she is</p> <p>10      going to be retiring, effective May 1. I can tell you</p> <p>11      that I consider her a friend. She tries to keep me</p> <p>12      between the lines up here as well as she can. And she</p> <p>13      is not only a friend to me personally, she is a friend</p> <p>14      to everyone in this House and to this institution. I</p> <p>15      would tell you that a lot of the things you see that</p> <p>16      happen here, they don't just happen magically. They</p> <p>17      don't just occur. The only way that we are able to do</p> <p>18      the people's business is by having really good staff</p> <p>19      who make sure that we get that done. And Ms. Weeks has</p> <p>20      been a leader through changes of political power, and</p> <p>21      everything else. She has been very fair and very</p> <p>22      knowledgeable, knows these rules, loves this</p> <p>23      institution and loves this state. It will be our loss</p> <p>24      when she retires, but I know she has great ideas and</p> <p>25      plans and things she's going to do. But I would ask my</p> |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>1 colleagues to please join me in thanking Ms. Weeks for<br/>2 her service.</p> <p>3 Representative Stam, the Chair would allow --<br/>4 would recognize you to file a bill to outlaw her<br/>5 retirement. I will make a deviation from the rules for<br/>6 that purpose if the gentleman would like.</p> <p>7 REP. STAM: Would you recognize me for a very<br/>8 short personal privilege?</p> <p>9 SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman from Wake,<br/>10 Representative Stam, is recognized to speak to a point<br/>11 of personal privilege.</p> <p>12 REP. STAM: A few of you may remember that in<br/>13 2003, we had a little disagreement in the House here,<br/>14 and Ms. Weeks presided for about a week, if I recall.<br/>15 And at the conclusion of that it did not turn out well.<br/>16 Her presiding was great. I made the suggestion to our<br/>17 caucus that we elect her as the Speaker. And,<br/>18 Mr. Speaker -- well, I don't want to make that motion.</p> <p>19 SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman's motion that he<br/>20 thought was out of order, but probably would get a lot<br/>21 of votes.</p> <p>22 For what purpose does the gentleman from<br/>23 Rutherford, Representative Hager, arise?</p> <p>24 REP. HAGER: For an announcement, for we are at<br/>25 that time.</p>  | <p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>1 very much appreciate her help, her kindness. And, you<br/>2 know, I don't have any idea what party she belongs to<br/>3 because she's never let that show that I can tell. And<br/>4 I do appreciate very much the hard work and the love<br/>5 that we have all received from her. Thank you.</p> <p>6 SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does the<br/>7 gentleman from Gaston, Representative Torbett, arise?</p> <p>8 REP. TORBETT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To<br/>9 address one of your earlier concerns. When we received<br/>10 the notification of Ms. Weeks yesterday, after<br/>11 recovering from a sheer state of shock, in a absolute<br/>12 bipartisan effort, Representative Grier Martin and<br/>13 myself contacted our bill drafting department. And<br/>14 there is a bill being drafted now to disallow her<br/>15 retirement. But since we will not be back, hopefully,<br/>16 until after she has retired, we will effectively change<br/>17 that language to a recall language. And I hope<br/>18 everyone will have the opportunity to sign on and will<br/>19 do so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.</p> <p>20 SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does the<br/>21 gentleman from Durham, Representative Michaux, arise?</p> <p>22 REP. MICHAUX: Point of personal privilege.</p> <p>23 SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman has the floor to<br/>24 speak to a point of personal privilege.</p> <p>25 REP. MICHAUX: Mr. Speaker and members of the</p>   |
| <p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>1 SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman has the floor for<br/>2 an announcement.</p> <p>3 REP. HAGER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The<br/>4 Republicans will caucus immediately after the speaker<br/>5 recesses this body in room 544.</p> <p>6 SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does the<br/>7 gentleman from Cabarrus, Representative Pittman, arise?</p> <p>8 REP. PITTMAN: Point of personal privilege.</p> <p>9 SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman is recognized to<br/>10 speak to a point of personal privilege.</p> <p>11 REP. PITTMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I<br/>12 was at Southeastern Seminary over here in Wake Forest<br/>13 nearby, a couple of things they taught us as aspiring<br/>14 young pastors, one thing was that any church looking<br/>15 for a new pastor is trying to find somebody that is<br/>16 29-years-old with 35 years' experience. And the other<br/>17 thing was to be very aware of who the previous pastor<br/>18 was because you may have some -- you know, a hard act<br/>19 to follow. So I don't know how much experience our<br/>20 next clerk will have but they're going to have a hard<br/>21 act to follow. And we do appreciate Ms. Weeks very<br/>22 much. I know she was very helpful to me when I first<br/>23 came up here and didn't know what in the world was<br/>24 going on. And she has been helpful ever since. I do<br/>25 know a little bit more about what is going on, but I</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>1 House, I've been here for a few years, and one of the<br/>2 things that has been enjoyable about this has been<br/>3 working with Denise. Denise has been a good friend,<br/>4 and I have had the privilege of actually nominating<br/>5 Denise, seconding her nomination over the years to be<br/>6 the clerk of this House. Denise has reached a point in<br/>7 her life -- actually, what she's done is she's probably<br/>8 considered one of the most proficient clerks of<br/>9 anybody's House in country. The accolades heaped upon<br/>10 her by her fellow clerks across the country, with her<br/>11 election to various committees and to her leadership<br/>12 role in that organization, points to the fact that she<br/>13 has been a shining star as a clerk. There is no<br/>14 question about the fact, Mr. Speaker and members, that<br/>15 we're going to miss Denise because of her<br/>16 evenhandedness. I mean, even when I get to her and we<br/>17 have a disagreement, we smile at each other and<br/>18 disagree. I call her a word I shouldn't call her; she<br/>19 calls me what she shouldn't call me, smiling all the<br/>20 while. But it is going to be very difficult, Denise,<br/>21 to replace you. And I think you are aware that because<br/>22 what you have done to this institution is caused all of<br/>23 us to be infused with a degree -- a great degree of<br/>24 love for this institution. And it's been through your<br/>25 efforts that that has been done. I don't think there's</p> |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>1       anybody in the State of North Carolina who deserves any</p> <p>2       more accolades than you because of the way that you</p> <p>3       have comported yourself and the way that you have</p> <p>4       run -- you have run this body. And I think everybody</p> <p>5       is aware of that, and we're going to miss you Denise.</p> <p>6       There's no question about it. And I just wish you</p> <p>7       well, but I sure wish you'd stay around until I left.</p> <p>8       SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does the</p> <p>9       gentleman from Cumberland, Representative Floyd, arise?</p> <p>10      REP. FLOYD: For two -- one, to speak upon a</p> <p>11      special privilege and then to see if the Rule Chair</p> <p>12      would yield for a question.</p> <p>13      SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman is first</p> <p>14      recognized to speak to a point of personal privilege.</p> <p>15      REP. FLOYD: Mr. Speaker, I have already spoken</p> <p>16      with Denise concerning my concern about her departure</p> <p>17      and I don't want to go into detail what I shared with</p> <p>18      her; but I'm somewhat disappointed. I've only been</p> <p>19      here eight years and I didn't know that I caused that</p> <p>20      much chaos for her. But I have enjoyed my working</p> <p>21      relationship with her. Second, Mr. Speaker...</p> <p>22      SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman has the floor.</p> <p>23      REP. FLOYD: Is to see if the Rule Chair would</p> <p>24      yield for a question.</p> <p>25      SPEAKER MOORE: Will the gentleman from Harnett</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>1       Redistricting would issue a report to the full House</p> <p>2       for its consideration. I am not prepared at this time</p> <p>3       because I've not really -- the Speaker and I have not</p> <p>4       had time to fully comprehend how long the debate on the</p> <p>5       House Committee on Redistricting may go. I do not know</p> <p>6       if the House will take up the redistricting maps</p> <p>7       tonight or if it will be tomorrow. That may be a</p> <p>8       question better directed to the Speaker.</p> <p>9       SPEAKER MOORE: Representative Floyd, the --</p> <p>10      anticipating that question, I'll go ahead and address</p> <p>11      that directly. Today the intent is going to be, and I</p> <p>12      believe the Rules Chairman is going to announce the</p> <p>13      Redistricting Committee will be meeting at 1:00 today.</p> <p>14      So we're going to recess -- when we go into recess in a</p> <p>15      few minutes, we're going to go into recess until 2:30.</p> <p>16      If that Redistricting Committee is still meeting at the</p> <p>17      time 2:30 rolls around or 2:15, we will simply delay</p> <p>18      the start of session until we get back from that. So</p> <p>19      we're not going to be compressed. But we didn't want</p> <p>20      to set -- we didn't want to say 3:00 or 4:00 or</p> <p>21      something late and then wind up having a couple of</p> <p>22      hours of just dead time in between. So whatever time</p> <p>23      is needed for the Redistricting Committee to do its</p> <p>24      work will be afforded. As far as session this evening,</p> <p>25      we're going to -- I know -- what is going to happen,</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>1       yield to the gentleman from Cumberland?</p> <p>2       REP. LEWIS: I yield.</p> <p>3       SPEAKER MOORE: He yields.</p> <p>4       REP. FLOYD: Could you just go over that</p> <p>5       calendar one more time? At 1:00, you indicated that</p> <p>6       the Redistricting Committee will meet. Then at 2:30,</p> <p>7       we will come back and convene -- receive from the</p> <p>8       Senate. Could you just go over that and then if there</p> <p>9       is a third thing?</p> <p>10      REP. LEWIS: Yes, sir. Representative, thank</p> <p>11      you for the question. It is anticipated that the</p> <p>12      Committee on Redistricting for the House will meet at</p> <p>13      1:00. And the purpose of that meeting will be to</p> <p>14      consider a bill that reestablishes an election timeline</p> <p>15      for those seeking office -- or those seeking election</p> <p>16      to the U.S. House of Representatives. That will be the</p> <p>17      only bill considered at that time. Provided that goes</p> <p>18      as anticipated, we would report that bill out to the</p> <p>19      full House which will return into session at 2:30 to</p> <p>20      debate and hopefully pass that bill. And then the</p> <p>21      House would also receive the bill from the Senate that</p> <p>22      actually has the maps on it. The House will then go</p> <p>23      back into recess. The Committee on recess would</p> <p>24      reconvene to debate the report from the Senate of the</p> <p>25      maps and when that debate is completed the Committee on</p>        | <p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>1       Representative Jones, during the recess, will be filing</p> <p>2       the bill that deals with the primary dates and the</p> <p>3       filing and so forth. That will be heard this afternoon</p> <p>4       in the Redistricting Committee Hearing. Again, if we</p> <p>5       have to delay things, we're going to re-recess subject</p> <p>6       to all sorts of contingencies so that we can do that</p> <p>7       and not get off schedule. As far as how late we're</p> <p>8       here, I don't know how late that will be. We'll have</p> <p>9       to just see how long -- how long things take during the</p> <p>10      day because we also have to receive the maps from the</p> <p>11      Senate. And the Chair would intend, if we can, to try</p> <p>12      to vote on those today. But we will just have to be</p> <p>13      mindful of the clock and where we are.</p> <p>14      REP. FLOYD: Another follow-up question, Mr.</p> <p>15      Speaker.</p> <p>16      SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman is recognized.</p> <p>17      REP. FLOYD: For the Rules Chair.</p> <p>18      SPEAKER MOORE: Does the gentleman yield?</p> <p>19      REP. LEWIS: I yield, Mr. Speaker.</p> <p>20      SPEAKER MOORE: He yields.</p> <p>21      REP. FLOYD: Mr. Chair, could you give us the</p> <p>22      room number? Because I don't want to go to the wrong</p> <p>23      one.</p> <p>24      REP. LEWIS: Yes, sir. Mr. Speaker, may I be</p> <p>25      recognized for an announcement?</p>   |

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| <p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>1           SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman is recognized for<br/>2           an announcement.</p> <p>3           REP. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The House<br/>4           Committee Redistricting will meet at 1:00 p.m. today in<br/>5           room 643. But I would encourage members, and also<br/>6           those listening in of the public, if for some reason<br/>7           the Senate is still occupying that room, we would have<br/>8           to change the room to room 544. But we anticipate the<br/>9           Senate would be completed with the room by 1:00.</p> <p>10          SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does the lady<br/>11          from Buncombe, Representative Fisher, arise?</p> <p>12          REP. FISHER: For a moment of personal<br/>13          privilege, Mr. Speaker.</p> <p>14          SPEAKER MOORE: The lady is recognized to speak<br/>15          to a point of personal privilege.</p> <p>16          REP. FISHER: I just wanted to continue, just a<br/>17          little bit, the recognition of our clerk. I think that<br/>18          as many have already said, we will find it very<br/>19          difficult to replace Denise. I know that when I first<br/>20          got here about six terms ago, you could not have found<br/>21          anyone more helpful in terms of orienting one to this<br/>22          place. And I know that she immediately recognized that<br/>23          I was from Asheville just by my clothes. And she said,<br/>24          "I know the boutique you would like." And so we took a<br/>25          little field trip one afternoon after session, and she</p>                      | <p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>1           REP. SHEPARD: I won't reiterate all that has<br/>2           been said about Denise, but I also want to thank her<br/>3           for the kindness that she showed me when I first came<br/>4           here also. But I want to share something with you that<br/>5           most of you may not know, some of you may, because she<br/>6           and I made a debut on YouTube one time. She's probably<br/>7           the best clerk in the country, and she's also probably<br/>8           the only clerk in the country that can clog as well as<br/>9           she can clerk. So if you didn't see that, you need to<br/>10          look it up on YouTube. Thank you, Denise.</p> <p>11          SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does the<br/>12          gentleman from Caldwell, Representative Robinson,<br/>13          arise?</p> <p>14          REP. ROBINSON: To speak to a point of personal<br/>15          privilege.</p> <p>16          SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman has the floor to<br/>17          speak to a point of personal privilege.</p> <p>18          REP. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is<br/>19          not often that I arise on the floor of this house, but<br/>20          I feel compelled to. Mickey, I think you're probably<br/>21          the only one that started, maybe even before I did. My<br/>22          first term was 1981 and I remember Denise. I think you<br/>23          were here then when Grace Collins was clerk. And<br/>24          believe me, back then not only was I a true freshman,<br/>25          but I really didn't know anything. And I remember I</p>                                |
| <p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>1           let me know the boutique that she thought that I would<br/>2           like. And, of course, that's kind of stuck with me.</p> <p>3           There was another occasion where a number of<br/>4           her colleagues throughout the country decided they<br/>5           would meet in Asheville. And we made some arrangements<br/>6           for them to go to different places and make sure that<br/>7           they were well accommodated, and I know that I met them<br/>8           at one point at dinner. And you cannot believe -- and<br/>9           this has really always stuck with me, the respect that<br/>10          she receives from her colleagues from across the United<br/>11          States. And I think that that is such a testament to<br/>12          the fortune -- the good fortune that we have had here<br/>13          in this General Assembly to have had her expertise with<br/>14          us for the length of time we have had. I will miss my<br/>15          July birthday buddy. And I do hope -- I know I will<br/>16          see you in May, or just a little bit before you go, but<br/>17          I do hope that you will keep us posted on your<br/>18          whereabouts and that you enjoy your time away. Thank<br/>19          you.</p> <p>20          SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does the<br/>21          gentleman from Onslow, Representative Shepard, arise?</p> <p>22          REP. SHEPARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For a<br/>23          moment of personal privilege.</p> <p>24          SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman is recognized to<br/>25          speak to a point of personal privilege.</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>1           used to sign on bills and I would say, "Oh, my gosh. I<br/>2           don't want to sign on that." And then you'd go ask<br/>3           Denise to get your name removed. And then there were<br/>4           other bills that I wish I had signed on that she'd work<br/>5           with me on. Excused absences, I mean, you name them,<br/>6           Denise has helped me with them. And you're going to be<br/>7           truly missed, believe me. When I think of the members<br/>8           that have passed through this assembly, the Speakers,<br/>9           Rules Chairman, you have -- will truly leave your<br/>10          imprint on this Body. Thank you so very much and God<br/>11          bless you in the future.</p> <p>12          SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does the<br/>13          gentleman from Wake, Representative Martin, arise?</p> <p>14          REP. MARTIN: To speak to a point of personal<br/>15          privilege.</p> <p>16          SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman has the floor to<br/>17          speak to a point of personal privilege.</p> <p>18          REP. MARTIN: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.<br/>19          Members, in maybe my third term here, I was starting to<br/>20          learn my way around, but I still would approach Speaker<br/>21          Hackney up on the podium with some trepidation. He had<br/>22          a way of scowling at you with his glasses hanging down<br/>23          his nose that wanted to scare you off. And I think he<br/>24          and Denise had sort of a good cop, bad cop routine<br/>25          because as Speaker Hackney was scowling at me,</p> |



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| <p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>1 inevitably Denise would be smiling, and she would try<br/>2 to help me do what I wanted to do and leave it to<br/>3 Speaker Hackney just to glare at me until I went away.<br/>4 But then also sometimes I would walk up there, and I<br/>5 would know I was in big trouble if Speaker Hackney was<br/>6 smiling at me. And then I would see Denise glaring at<br/>7 me, and I knew for sure whatever I wanted to do was not<br/>8 going to get done.</p> <p>9 As the gentleman from Gaston, Representative<br/>10 Torbett, said, he and I are conspiring to file a bill<br/>11 in the short session that would make it illegal for<br/>12 Denise to retire and essentially keep her at her desk<br/>13 until we pull her corpse away from it many decades in<br/>14 the future. Now, we have some concerns from some<br/>15 lawyers that requiring someone to spend time in a room<br/>16 with 120 obnoxious people constitutes cruel and unusual<br/>17 punishment under the United States Constitution.<br/>18 However, I've consulted with that eminent lawyer,<br/>19 Representative David Lewis, and he assures us that that<br/>20 would be both fair and legal.</p> <p>21 SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does the<br/>22 gentleman from Craven, Representative Speciale, arise?<br/>23 REP. SPECIALE: Moment of personal privilege.<br/>24 SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman is recognized to<br/>25 speak to a point of personal privilege.</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">32</p> <p>1 clear, it was my intent to move to recess and not to<br/>2 adjourn. My apologies.</p> <p>3 SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman's motion is<br/>4 restated as a motion to recess. The Chair accepts it<br/>5 as a motion to recess, subject to the conditions.<br/>6 Subject to the following: To the filing of bills, to<br/>7 receipt of message from the Senate, to the receipt of<br/>8 committee reports, to the re-referral of bills and<br/>9 resolutions, and the introduction of bills and<br/>10 resolutions. Those in favor of the motion to recess<br/>11 will say, "aye."<br/>12 (Voice vote.)<br/>13 SPEAKER MOORE: Those opposed, "no." The aye's<br/>14 have it, the House stands in recess, subject to the<br/>15 aforementioned conditions until 2:30 p.m.<br/>16 (THE PROCEEDINGS IN THIS MATTER ADJOURNED AT 11:00 A.M.)<br/>17<br/>18<br/>19<br/>20<br/>21<br/>22<br/>23<br/>24<br/>25</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>1 REP. SPECIALE: All right. I think all of us<br/>2 have something, somewhere along the line, that we can<br/>3 say in thanks to Denise. So I'm just going to say<br/>4 thank you and I honestly think her biggest<br/>5 accomplishment is that she allowed a series of Speakers<br/>6 to actually believe that they were in charge.</p> <p>7 SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does the<br/>8 gentleman from Harnett, Representative Lewis, arise?<br/>9 REP. LEWIS: For a motion, Mr. Speaker.<br/>10 SPEAKER MOORE: Are there any further notices<br/>11 and announcements before I recognize the recess motion?<br/>12 The gentleman is now recognized for the motion.<br/>13 REP. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.<br/>14 Mr. Speaker, subject to the filing of bills and the<br/>15 referral of bills and resolutions to Committee, I move<br/>16 the House to now adjourn to reconvene at 2:30 p.m. --<br/>17 Pardon me, Mr. Speaker.</p> <p>18 SPEAKER MOORE: For what does -- would the<br/>19 gentleman modify his motion to recess by also making it<br/>20 subject to receipt of messages from the Senate, receipt<br/>21 of committee reports?<br/>22 REP. LEWIS: Yes, sir.<br/>23 SPEAKER MOORE: And introduction of bills and<br/>24 resolutions?<br/>25 REP. LEWIS: Yes, sir. Mr. Speaker, and to be</p>   | <p style="text-align: right;">33</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA<br/>COUNTY OF WAKE<br/>CERTIFICATE</p> <p>I, Rachel L. Hammond, a Notary Public in and for the State<br/>of North Carolina duly commissioned and authorized to<br/>administer oaths and to take and certify hearings, do hereby<br/>certify that on February 18, 2016, this hearing was held before<br/>me at the time and place aforesaid, that all parties were<br/>present as represented, and that the record as set forth in the<br/>preceding 32 pages represents a true and accurate transcript of<br/>the proceedings to the best of my ability and understanding.</p> <p>IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto set my hand, this the<br/>24th day of February, 2016.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____<br/>Notary Public</p> <p>Rachel L. Hammond<br/>Notary Number<br/>201126500152</p>   |